(b) The strengthening of the Lok Adalat movement in the country must necessarily depend on the initiative taken at the local levels, by the State Legal Aid & Advice Boards or Committees. CILAS provides the required motivation and encouragement by participation in functions and financial assistance. It is noticed that the movement gets the desired fillip where the judiciary actvely participates because of greater public confidence but in States where the constitution of the Boards|Committees does not include the judiciary the degree of success is not as satisfactory. Even in such States if the judiciary participates the results are encouraging. Efforts are on to persuade such State Governments to revise their schemes.

Constitutionality of the Indian Divorce Act, 1869

1485. SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN:

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has referred to the Law Ministry the Constitutionality of the Indian Divocre Act, 1869 for making suitable amendment therein;

(b) if so, when the reference was made and what action has been taken thereon so far; and

(c) what are the reasons for delay if any and by when suitable action is proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, in August, 1990 the Government received a Report submitted by the Arrears Committee (Commonly known as the Malimath Committee) constituted in pursuance of a resolution passed in the Chief Justices Conference 1987, inter-alia recommending as under:—

"Section 17 of the Indian Divorce Act which required confirmation of the decree of divorce passed by District Judge by a special Bench consisting of three Judges should be deleted and instead a right of appeal be provided to a Single Judge of the High Court".

On 3rd December, 1991, Government sought the views/comments of the various State Governments/Union Territory Administrations on certain recommendations of the Committee including the above recommendation. So far only 16 State Governments have furnished their views. A decision in the matter would be taken only after the receipt of views of the remaining State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations.

Audit of funds of political parties

1486. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a legislation to the effort that the political parties would submit their fund collections to a full audit and donations to political parties would be made only through cheques; and

(b) if so, by when the proposed legislation is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Proposals from foreign companies for production non-conventional energy

1487. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposals from foreign companies

to set up projects in the country for producing non-conventional energy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are planning to make the use of N.C.E.S. as mandatory for Defence and other sectors in remote areas; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that the World Bank had agreed to provide 195 million U.S. Dollars for the projects involved in producing N.C.E.S.; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Interest has been expressed by manufacturers, technology experts, NRI's etc. for establishing joint ventures and projects in the areas of wind power, solar energy, cogeneration, tidal energy, battery manufacture etc. including Cannon Power Corpn. AV Financial Corpn., Sea Solar Power Inc., Energy Conversion Devices Inc. United Solar Systems Corpn., Siemens Solar Industries, Research and Development Laboratory of USA, M/s Vestas and Micon of Denmark, Solel Solar Systems of Israel, Electricity De France etc.

(c) Several non-conventional energy devices are already being used by Defence and other sectors in remote areas as for example for lighting, communications, water heating etc. A proposal has been made for mandatory use of solar water heating systems in government establishments and buildings.

(d) The World Bank has agreed to provide US $ 145 million for India's Renewable Resources Development Project (RRDP). Out of this, US $ 115 million is being provided as IDA credit and US $ 26 million is being provided as grant under Global Environmental Facility (GEF).

The project comprises of three components namely:

1.	Small Hydro	US $ 70 million
2.	Wind Farm	US $ 28 million
3.	Solar PV	US $ 38 million

Agreements to this effect were signed between Government of India and I.D.A., and IREDA and IBRD (for GEF grant), on March 5, 1993 and the credit has come into effect from April 6, 1993. In addition, cofinancing of US $ 4 million from Swiss Development Cooperation as grant for Solar PV component of the project is also available. Negotiations for a mixed credit of US $ 50 million from DANIDA are in progress for the wind farm component of the project.

Joint ventures in the field of non-conventional energy

1488. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foreign manufacturers and technology experts in the field of non-conventional energy have recently shown interest in setting up joint ventures in India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENENRGY SOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Interest has been expressed by manufacturers, technology experts, NRI's etc. for establishing joint ventures and projects in the areas of wind power, solar energy, cogeneration, tidal energy, rechargeable storage bettery etc., including Cannon Power Corpn., AV Financial Corpn., Sea Solar Power Inc., Energy Conversion Devices Inc., United Solar Systems Corpn., Siemens Solar Industries, Research and Development Laboratory of USA, M/s Vestas and Micon of Denmark, Solel Solar Systems of Israel, Electricity De France of France etc.